

**State Board of Education
September 21, 2010
Item I**

Team: Transformation and Innovation

Discussion Topic: Setting the Stage: Essential Core Beliefs in Creating Opportunities to Learn for All Vermonters

Alignment with Goals: Strategic Plan

Statutory Authority: 16. V.S.A. §180

Background Information:

We know more today about how developing minds work. We have more resources and access to information than we have ever had in history. We have created and continue to create technology that allows us to maximize both in the learning environment, and we have more highly qualified educators than ever before. Yet, transforming education in response to what we know and have is a challenging long range pursuit that involves more than changing structures (e.g. learning locations, teaching ratios, time in the day) and updating materials and resources (e.g. computers, textbooks, on-line learning opportunities.) In order to create long term meaningful change in preparing our learners to build the future, we must also be willing to recognize, acknowledge and address the beliefs we hold individually and collectively about what “school” is and what “learning” means; about who can benefit from the learning process; and about what we do to help all learners, including non-traditional learners to excel.

Purpose of Discussion:

This session is designed to highlight this aspect of the change process and assist the participants in considering how their own beliefs affect the desired outcome.”

Staff Available:

Rae Ann Knopf, Deputy Commissioner
Noel Bryant, School Support Coordinator
Lisa Mazzitelli, School Support Coordinator